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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Naoko ITO et al.

Confirmation No. Unknown

Serial No. 09/667,230

Group 2176

Filed September 22, 2000

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INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUE

Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the accompanying documents, copies of which are attached to this statement, are made of record on the enclosed sheet.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the European Patent Office in the corresponding European Application Serial No. 00 12 0751. A copy of the European Search Report in which they were cited is attached hereto.

Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a

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counterpart foreign application not more than three months
prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Patch', written over a horizontal line.

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